

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-02 SS-15 INR-07 SP-02 SSO-00 INRE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 498

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E.9. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: SENATE HEARINGS ON ETHIOPIAN SITUATION

REF: STATE 196808

1. APPRECIATE REFTEL AND WILL BE PROVIDING MOFA WITH COPIES
SCHAUFLE'S PREPARED STATEMENT TODAY.

2. I WOULD APPRECIATE CLARIFICATION ONE POINT SOONEST.
PARA 2 REFTEL STATES IN RESPONSE TO SEN. CLARK STATEMENT
A/O QUESTION ABOUT "TORTURES, KILLINGS," ET AL,
SCHAUFLE REPLIED THAT "WHILE THERE WERE SOME VIOLATIONS
OF HUMAN RIGHTS, HE DID NOT BELIEVE THESE WERE AS WIDESPREAD
AND SEVERE AS DESCRIBED BY THE SENATORS...." IPS STORY
BY MICHAEL SAKS CARRIED AUG 7 WIRELESS FILE (RECEIVED
HERE THIS MORNING) IN REPORTING WHAT APPEARS BE SAME EXCHANGE,
STATES THAT SCHAUFLE, ACCORDING SAKS, "DID AGREE, HOWEVER,
THAT THERE HAVE BEEN WIDESPREAD VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN
RIGHTS IN ETHIOPIA AND SAID THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS TOLD
ETHIOPIA THAT IS TRONGLY OPPOSES SUCH VIOLATIONS AS
WIDESPREAD EXECUTIONS AND THE JAILING OF POLITICAL
PRISONERS." SCHAUFLE IS QUOTED AS ADDING THAT "THE
VIOLATIONS ARE SERIOUS, BUT WE DO NOT SEE A CONSISTENT
PATTERN."

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3. AS DEPT WILL RECOGNIZE, "SOME" VIOLATIONS REPRESENTS A CONSIDERABLY DIFFERENCE IN DEGREE OF EMPHASIS FROM "WIDESPREAD." WE ASSUME REFTEL VERSION IS CORRECT BUT WOULD APPRECIATE ASSURANCE ON THIS POINT. DEPT MAY ALSO WISH TO DISCUSS MATTER WITH USIA AND HAVE THEM CORRECT STATEMENT IN WIRELESS FILE FOR BENEFIT OF OTHER RECIPIENTS. DESPITE STADIS SLUG, CHARGE HAS DISCUSSED DISCREPANCY WITH PAO HERE WHO AGREES THAT PROBLEM SHOULD IN TURN BE DISCUSSED URGENTLY WITH HIS AGENCY.

4. HAS IPS ACCOUNT ALSO BEEN PROVIDED ETHIOPIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON AS CAN BE IMPLIED FROM PARA 1 REFTEL?
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